

**From:** Russ Poldrack  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 11:55am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing under the auspices of the Tunney Act in opposition to the proposed settlement of the US vs. Microsoft case. My vantage point is as a biomedical researcher who has for years been a user of Apple Macintosh computer systems, and more recently as a user of Linux and other open-source software. I am strongly opposed to the features of the proposed settlement that would allow Microsoft to continue to withhold crucial technical information. This technical information (such as file formats and API's) is important to allow the unfettered development of third-party software that can interoperate with Microsoft products, which is essential for the survival of non-Microsoft products given the predominance of Microsoft in the marketplace.

I am also very worried that the lack of significant penalties to Microsoft for their past anticompetitive practices. I have seen these practices in action firsthand as both an Apple user and more recently as a Linux user, and I can personally attest to the degree to which they have handicapped these competitive operating systems.

I hope that a revised settlement will address these important issues.

Sincerely,

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